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Professor Mohammad Rihan, from the Electrical Engineering Department at AMU, has assumed the role of Director General at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE).

Professor Mohammad Rihan, from the Electrical Engineering Department at AMU, has assumed the role of Director General at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE). His appointment to the position of DG was endorsed by a selection committee comprising subject matter experts and senior IAS officers following interviews conducted in December 2023. The recommendation was subsequently approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, Government of India. He will serve at NISE on deputation for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of extension of two years. Dr. Rihan brings a wealth of experience from his tenure in the Electrical Engineering Department, where he has made significant contributions to the fields of smart grid and solar energy.

Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has given its nod for appointment of Hitesh Kumar Sethia as MD and CEO of Jio Financial Services Ltd for three years period from 15 November 2023.

Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has given its nod for appointment of Hitesh Kumar Sethia as MD and CEO of Jio Financial Services Ltd for three years period from 15 November 2023. This approval is however subject to the condition that the appointee holds a valid Employment Visa throughout his tenure in India, which has been filed with the stock exchanges by Jio Financial Services Ltd. The MCA approval is under and in respect of the provisions of the Companies Act 2013 and should not be considered as covering any requirement of security clearance, for which the company/appointee shall be responsible.

The Solomon Islands has elected former Foreign Minister Jeremiah Manele as its new prime minister.

The Solomon Islands has elected former Foreign Minister Jeremiah Manele as its new prime minister. Jeremiah Manele secured 31 votes in a secret ballot involving 49 lawmakers, defeating opposition leader Matthew Wale, who received 18 votes. As the new prime minister, Manele faces the daunting task of navigating the complex geopolitical dynamics in the South Pacific while addressing domestic issues such as economic development, social stability, and governance.

The Appointment committee of Cabinet has approved the appointment of Sanjaya Kumar Mishra, former Chief Justice, Jharkhand High Court as President GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) for 4 years.

The Appointment committee of Cabinet has approved the appointment of Sanjaya Kumar Mishra, former Chief Justice, Jharkhand High Court as President GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) for 4 years. The selection was made on the

recommendations of a Search-Cum-Selection Committee. This will speed up the process of making the GSTAT functional at earliest. The Centre is planning to make the tribunal functional from 1 July 2024, officials had indicated earlier.

On 1st May 2024, Vice-Admiral Krishna Swaminathan took charge as Vice-Chief of Naval Staff.

On 1st May 2024, Vice-Admiral Krishna Swaminathan took charge as Vice-Chief of the Indian Navy. He was earlier serving as the Chief of Personnel. In the Indian Air Force (IAF), Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor assumed the post of Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) Training Command of the IAF located in Bengaluru. Vice-Admiral Swaminathan was commissioned into the Navy on July 1, 1987 and is a specialist in communication and electronic warfare. On assuming charge, he paid homage at the National War Memorial and later inspected a Guard of Honour on South Block lawns.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as the part-time chairman of HDFC Bank for a period of three years effective from 5 May 2024 to 4 May 2027.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as the part-time chairman of HDFC Bank for a period of three years effective from 5 May 2024 to 4 May 2027. Pursuant to the approval by the RBI and based on the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, the board of directors of the bank has approved the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as part-time chairman and independent director of the bank. Chakraborty is not related to any other directors or key managerial personnel of the bank. He is not debarred from holding the office of a director by virtue of any Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) order or any other such authority. Atanu Chakraborty is currently a part-time chairman and independent director of HDFC Bank Limited. He served the Government of India for 35 years as a member of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in the Gujarat cadre. He has mainly worked in areas of finance and economic policy, infrastructure, petroleum, and natural gas.

RBI has approved the appointment of Sanjeev Nautiyal as the managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) of the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank for the period of 3 years with effect from 1 July 2024.

RBI has approved the appointment of Sanjeev Nautiyal as the managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) of the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank for the period of 3 years with effect from 1 July 2024. He will join the Bank much prior to his taking charge as the MD&CEO and be designated as the President in the interim. Sanjeev Nautiyal is also a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers. He is a banker with over three decades of extensive strategic domain expertise in retail, SME, financial inclusion, operations, HR, international banking, and treasury. He earlier

held significant roles as deputy managing director, financial inclusion & micro markets, SBI and MD & CEO, SBI Life Insurance. He currently is the independent director of Life Insurance Corporation and acts as an advisory in various organizations.

Mallika Nadda, President of Special Olympics Bharat, has been appointed as Chairperson of the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Advisory Council (APAC), for 3 years from 1 May 2024 until 31 March 2027.

Mallika Nadda, President of Special Olympics Bharat, has been appointed as Chairperson of the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Advisory Council (APAC), for 3 years from 1 May 2024 until 31 March 2027. Mallika Nadda, wife of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President JP Nadda, has been serving as the Chairperson of Special Olympics Bharat since 2021. She is one of the leading social activists with a keen sense of social responsibility, dedicated to serving the cause of the differently-abled, underprivileged and women empowerment for over 30 years. As the chairperson of APAC, Mallika Nadda will stand to be a cohesive voice of the entire Special Olympics Asia Pacific region that runs across 34 countries. She would serve as the SO Bharat representative on the APAC where Special Olympics Bharat enjoys a permanent seat.

Former Chief General Manager of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Dr Subhansu Sekhar Acharya has taken over the charge of Chairman-cum- Managing Director (CMD) of The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) under the MSME Ministry.

Former Chief General Manager of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Dr Subhansu Sekhar Acharya has taken over the charge of Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) under the MSME Ministry. Acharya has over three decades of experience in different areas of MSME financing and development. Acharya was also a founding member of India's first SME Rating Agency and has served as CEO of India SME Technology Services, a company promoted by SIDBI and 4 other commercial banks. Acharya had joined SIDBI back in 1992 and became Chief General Manager in September 2022. He replaces Vipul Goel, Joint Secretary (Agro and Rural Industry division) at the Ministry of MSME who assumed charge as CMD of NSIC in July 2023.

Former Minister José Raúl Mulino elected as new president of the Republic of Panama.

Former Minister José Raúl Mulino elected as new president of the Republic of Panama. He was nominated by Partido Realizando Metas and Partido Alianza, is a lawyer and previously served as minister of security and minister of foreign affairs. Mulino was elected with 34 percent of the vote in a single-round election featuring

eight presidential candidates. José Raúl Mulino Quintero is a Panamanian lawyer, diplomat and politician who is the president-elect of Panama.

Paytm Money has appointed Rakesh Singh as the new CEO after Varun Sridhar resigned from the role.

Paytm Money has appointed Rakesh Singh as the new CEO after Varun Sridhar resigned from the role. Sridhar, former head of Paytm Money Ltd, will transition to Chief Executive Officer of Paytm Services Private Limited, focusing on the distribution of mutual funds and wealth management products. As part of the changes, the fintech' President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) Bhavesh Gupta, will resign from his position. Bhavesh Gupta has been with Paytm for nearly four years, and was elevated to the position of President and COO last year. Prior to Fisdom, Singh had worked with financial services companies including Standard Chartered, HDFC Securities and ICICI Bank.

Dr Purnima Devi Barman, a wildlife biologist from Assam, has won Whitley Gold Award 2024, also known as the Green Oscar.

Dr Purnima Devi Barman, a wildlife biologist from Assam, has won Whitley Gold Award 2024, also known as the Green Oscar. She was honoured for her conservation effort of the endangered bird, Hargila or Greater Adjutant Stork and its wetland habitat. This is the second time that Dr Barman has been honoured with the Whitley Gold Award. She was also awarded the prize in 2017. Dr Barman received the trophy from charity patron Princess Anne – the Princess Royal, the sister of King Charles III, at the Royal Geographical Society award ceremony in London, United Kingdom. Winner of the 2024 Whitley Gold Awards: Naomi Longa, Raju Sharma, Aristide Kamla, Kuenzang Dorji, Fernanda Abra, Leroy Ignacio, Purnima Barman.

Forest and tribal rights activist Alok Shukla won the prestigious 35th Goldman Environmental Prize 2024 for successfully leading a community campaign in Chhattisgarh.

Forest and tribal rights activist Alok Shukla won the prestigious 35th Goldman Environmental Prize 2024 for successfully leading a community campaign that saved 4.45 lakh acres of biodiversity-rich forests from 21 planned coal mines in Chhattisgarh. The Goldman Environmental Prize, also popularly known as the Green Nobel Prize, is awarded annually to grassroots environmental champions worldwide. This year, seven people have been selected for the annual Goldman Environmental Prize. They are : Marcel Gomes, Murrawah Maroochy Johnson, Alok Shukla, Teresa Vicente, Andrea Vidaurre, Nonhle Mbuthuma and Sinegugu Zukulu.

Indian-origin Teacher Gina Justus has been named regional winner for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) at the 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards.

Sharjah Girls Branch teacher Gina Justus has been named regional winner for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) at the 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards. Gina Justus is an English High School teacher in Sharjah Girls Branch, United Arab Emirates (UAE). Gina Justus is originally from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Gina Justus has been working in the UAE since 2005. Gina Justus was recognized for her excellent mentorship and dedication to charity. India's Meena Mishra has also been included among the total nine regional winners in this competition. Meena Mishra is a teacher at Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan International School, Mumbai.

Bhavi Mehta won the 9th edition of Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2024 for "The Book Beautiful".

The Oxford Bookstores named Bhavi Mehta as the winner of the 9th edition of Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2024. The event was held at the India Habitat Centre and celebrated Mehta's work on "The Book Beautiful" by Pradeep Sebastian, published by Hachette India. Mehta received a trophy, certificate, and a cash prize of INR 1 lakh. The winner, announced at India Habitat Centre (IHC), was felicitated with a trophy, certificate by art historian and the chair of the jury Alka Pande, author-politician Shashi Tharoor, Ambassador of Norway to India May-Elin Stener and CEO of Apeejay Oxford Bookstores Swagat Sengupta.

According to the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Credit card spends surged 27 percent year-on-year to Rs18.26 trillion in financial year 2023-24.

According to the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Credit card spends surged 27 percent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) to Rs18.26 trillion in financial year 2023-24 (FY24) from nearly Rs14 trillion in the year-ago period. In March 2024, credit card spends rose nearly 10.07 percent to Rs 1.64 trillion from Rs 1.49 trillion in February. Of the total Rs 1.64 trillion credit card transactions, point of sale (PoS) in the country rose to Rs 60,378 crore in March from Rs 54,431.48 crore in February. Meanwhile, e-commerce payments inched up to Rs 1.05 trillion from Rs 95,000 crore.

The Reserve Bank of India has updated its "guidance note" on operational risk management for the financial sector, and also extended it to the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), including housing finance companies.

The Reserve Bank of India has updated its "guidance note" on operational risk management for the financial sector, and also extended it to the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), including housing finance companies. The 2005 'Guidance Note on Management of Operational Risk' covered only commercial banks. All regulated entities (REs) in India should implement a robust information and communication technology (ICT) risk management programme in alignment with their operational risk management framework. REs should manage their dependencies on relationships,

including those of, but not limited to, third parties (which include intragroup entities), for the delivery of critical operations. REs should develop and implement response and recovery plans to manage incidents that could disrupt the delivery of critical operations in line with the RE's risk appetite and tolerance for disruption.

RBI launched two surveys 'Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)' and 'Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS)' which will provide key inputs for the bi-monthly monetary policy.

RBI launched two surveys 'Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)' and 'Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS)' which will provide key inputs for the bi-monthly monetary policy. The next bi-monthly monetary policy is scheduled during June 5-7, 2024. The 'Inflation Expectations Survey of Households' aims at capturing subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 19 cities, including Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Thiruvananthapuram. The 'Consumer Confidence Survey' seeks qualitative responses from households, regarding their sentiments on general economic situation, employment scenario, price level, households' income and spending. It is also conducted in 19 cities, including Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, and Delhi.

YES Bank has partnered with Bengaluru-based financial services provider ANQ to launch 2 'Pi' and 'Phi' co-branded cards catering to Indian consumers.

YES Bank has partnered with Bengaluru-based financial services provider ANQ to launch 2 'Pi' and 'Phi' co-branded cards catering to Indian consumers. This strategic partnership aims to bridge the gap between traditional banking and the fintech industry, offering innovative solutions to meet evolving consumer needs. YES Bank ANQ Pi Credit Card is a digital-only card that offers seamless credit on UPI for domestic transactions, providing users with convenient and secure payment options. With no joining or annual fees, this card provides financial flexibility without any additional costs. Users can earn 8 reward points on UPI transactions above Rs 2000, while also gaining access to RuPay Platinum Benefits for added perks. Card provides accelerated rewards on UPI spending, enhancing the value of every transaction. Users can easily convert purchases into EMIs.

Neobanking startup Fi, backed by investors such as Peak XV and Temasek, has secured a non-banking finance company (NBFC) licence from the Reserve Bank of India.

Neobanking startup Fi, backed by investors such as Peak XV and Temasek, has secured a non-banking finance company (NBFC) licence from the Reserve Bank of India. With this, Fi has joined the likes of Jupiter, Groww and Cred, all of which got into the lending business either by getting a fresh licence or by acquiring another NBFC. Acquiring an NBFC licence empowers fintechs to offer loans from their own

books, thus establishing an asset base. Without this licence, they are limited to acting as intermediaries to connect borrowers with banks and other NBFCs.

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has signed an agreement with the Bank of Namibia (BoN) for developing an instant payment system like Unified Payment Interface (UPI) for the African nation.

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has signed an agreement with the Bank of Namibia (BoN) for developing an instant payment system like Unified Payment Interface (UPI) for the African nation. This partnership marks NPCI's first-ever collaboration with a central bank to deploy the UPI stack in an international market. The collaboration is aimed at developing real-time person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions in Namibia. Through this collaboration, BoN will gain access to best-in-class technology and insights from NIPL, enabling the creation of a similar platform in Namibia for the digital welfare of its citizens. The agreement aims at improving accessibility, affordability, connectivity with both domestic and international payment networks, and interoperability of payments.

Groww Pay, the UPI platform of brokerage firm Groww, has secured an online payment aggregator (PA) licence from RBI.

Groww Pay, the UPI platform of brokerage firm Groww, has secured an online payment aggregator (PA) licence from RBI. This licence allows Groww Pay to facilitate online transactions through its platform using its UPI app, Groww Pay. This move marks Groww's expansion into financial services beyond its usual investment and broking offerings. Since last year, Groww has been offering UPI payment services through its Groww Pay Private Limited feature, in partnership with YES Bank. The platform has been focusing on bill payments like electricity and water bills, DTH recharges, as well as loan and credit card repayments.

BRISKPE, has raised \$5 million in a seed round from PayU.

Cross-border payments platform, BRISKPE, has raised \$5 million in a seed round from PayU, the payments and fintech business of Prosus. BRISKPE will use the funding to enhance its product and service offerings, expand its team and scale up its reach to enable more Indian businesses to set off on their global journey with seamless cross-border payments. Launched in 2023, BRISKPE is led by Chief Executive Sanjay Tripathy and Chief Product and Technology Officer Nilesh Pathak. It provides cross-border payment solutions to businesses including micro, small and medium enterprises.

RBI announced an 8 percent interest on Government of India Floating Rate Bond 2034 (GOI FRB 2034) for the half year 30 April 2024 to 29 October 2024.

On 29 April 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced an 8 percent interest on Government of India Floating Rate Bond 2034 (GOI FRB 2034) for the half year 30 April 2024 to 29 October 2024. FRB 2034 carries a coupon, which has a base rate equivalent to the average of the Weighted Average Yield (WAY) of last three auctions (from the rate fixing day i.e, April 30, 2024) of 182 Day T-Bills, plus a fixed spread (0.98 percent). It is linked to the interest rate of the National Savings Certificate (NSC), a small savings scheme backed by the Union government. The interest rate of RBI Floating Rate Savings Bonds is 0.35% higher than what NSC offers. Now, NSC offers an interest rate of 7.7% for the April-June quarter. Going by the set formula, RBI Floating Rate Savings Bond 2020 (Taxable) will continue to fetch a high interest rate of 8.05% from July 1, 2024, for the next six months.

SEBI has approved amendments to its mutual fund regulations aimed at establishing an institutional mechanism to curb front-running and fraudulent transactions.

SEBI has approved amendments to its mutual fund regulations aimed at establishing an institutional mechanism to curb front-running and fraudulent transactions. SEBI floated a consultation paper in this regard in May 2023 after noticing a significant spike in the number of front-running and insider trading activities. Front-running refers to trading in a stock or any other financial asset while having insider knowledge of a future transaction. The regulator also approved streamlining of prudential rules for passive mutual fund schemes regarding exposure to the securities of group companies. Currently, mutual fund schemes are not allowed to invest more than 25% of their net asset value in a sponsor's group companies. This restricts passive funds to effectively replicate the underlying index in cases where the group companies of a sponsor comprise more than 25% in an index.

As per ADB' report titled 'Aging Well In Asia', India having the lowest health insurance coverage among older people at 21 percent.

As per ADB report, India is one of the lowest health insurance coverage among the Asia Pacific nations for older people. While the South Korea and Thailand have achieved universal health coverage, others lag behind with India having the lowest health insurance coverage among older people at 21 percent, a report titled 'Aging Well In Asia' prepared by ADB said. However, schemes like Ayushman Bharat that provides cashless healthcare to bottom quartile of population has improved health coverage since its launch. Expanding it further will improve the condition and make people aged over 60 years more productive for the economy, adding, silver dividend can be higher for such countries who gainfully employ them. The economic growth impact due to ageing population during 2031-40 would be lower in the case of India as it would still have high young population.

SEBI has made it compulsory for Portfolio Management Services (PMS)

providers to register with the Association of Portfolio Managers in India (APMI).

SEBI has made it compulsory for Portfolio Management Services (PMS) providers to register with the Association of Portfolio Managers in India (APMI) to enhancing oversight and streamlining operations in the financial sector. This decision, announced recently by SEBI, is part of a broader initiative to promote collective oversight of PMS distributors, ultimately fostering a more efficient and transparent business environment for portfolio managers. The move is aimed at promoting ease of doing business initiatives for portfolio managers. The new directive would come into effect from 1 January 2025, and APMI would issue the criteria for registration of distributors by 1 July 2024.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) revised the guidelines for custodian banks to issue Irrevocable Payment Commitments (IPCs) in light of the T+1 settlement regime for stocks.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) revised the guidelines for custodian banks to issue Irrevocable Payment Commitments (IPCs) in light of the T+1 settlement regime for stocks. Capital Market Exposure (CME) Limit: The maximum intraday risk to the custodian banks issuing IPCs would be considered as CME at 30 percent of the settlement amount. Basis for the 30% Risk Limit: It is based on the assumption of a 20 percent downward price movement of the equities on T+1, with an additional margin of 10 percent for further downward movement of price. Earlier, the risk mitigation measures were prescribed based on T+2 rolling settlement for equities (T being the trade day). Only custodian banks, who have an agreement with clients giving them an inalienable right over the securities for receiving a payout in the settlement, are permitted to issue IPCs.

SEBI has introduced a new framework for stock exchanges to become supervisory bodies to regulate research analysts (RAs) and investment advisors (IAs).

SEBI has introduced a new framework for stock exchanges to become supervisory bodies to regulate research analysts (RAs) and investment advisors (IAs). Stock exchanges can become supervisory bodies called Research Analyst Administration and Supervisory Body (RAASB) for regulating RAs and Investment Adviser Administration and Supervisory Body (IAASB) for supervising IAs. The criteria for recognized stock exchanges to become a regulatory body is as follows- Minimum of 15 years of existence as a recognized stock exchange; Minimum net worth of Rs 200 crore; Stock exchange should have nationwide terminals, investor grievance redressal mechanism including online dispute solution mechanism; Service centers in at least 20 cities.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) have agreed to a replenishment of \$5 billion for ADB's Asian Development Fund (ADF) 14 and Technical Assistance Special

Fund (TASF) 8.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) have agreed to a replenishment of \$5 billion for ADB's Asian Development Fund (ADF) 14 and Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF) 8. The commitment was made during ADB's 57th Annual Meeting. The ADF 14 replenishment is about 22% higher than the \$4.1 billion available in ADF 13, and will provide eligible ADB members with the largest-ever volume of ADF grants. TASF 8 will provide grants that help prepare projects, build capacity, and provide technical or policy advice. More than \$2.5 billion, or 51%, of the replenishment will be funded by contributions from donors including two new countries: Armenia and Georgia. ADB will significantly increase its net income transfers to ADF, from just under \$1.2 billion in ADF 13 to almost \$1.6 billion in ADF 14, an increase of 35%. The remaining \$0.9 billion will comprise transfers from earlier ADF cycles and income from liquidity investments. In parallel, ADB intends to provide \$16.7 billion in concessional loans, which have very low interest rates over long repayment periods, during the ADF 14 period. The following donors announced contributions to ADF 14: Armenia; Australia; Austria; Canada; Denmark; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Luxembourg; Malaysia; Netherlands; New Zealand; Norway; People's Republic of China; Philippines; Portugal; Republic of Korea; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Taipei,China; Türkiye; United Kingdom; and United States.

The Reserve Bank of India allowed standalone primary dealers (SPDs) to borrow in foreign currency from their parent companies and other authorised entities.

The Reserve Bank of India allowed standalone primary dealers (SPDs) to borrow in foreign currency from their parent companies and other authorised entities. Standalone primary dealers will also be allowed to access overdraft facilities in nostro accounts solely for operational use. Nostro is a bank account held in another country by a domestic bank, but in the currency of the foreign country. The RBI issued a circular in this regard. The RBI's move will help companies in managing funding for their foreign exchange business. As per the central bank's direction, excess withdrawals not adjusted within five days must be reported to the RBI. Such reporting should occur within 15 days from the end of the month in which the limits are exceeded. Reporting is not required if arrangements are in place for value dating.

IFSCA has allowed IFSCA-registered non-bank entities, registered with SEBI as Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), to issue Derivative Instruments with Indian securities as underlying, in GIFT-IFSC.

IFSCA has allowed IFSCA-registered non-bank entities, registered with SEBI as Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), to issue Derivative Instruments with Indian securities as underlying, in GIFT-IFSC. Further, the entity issuing such Derivative Instruments in GIFT-IFSC must ensure compliance with the requirements on issuance of ODIs, issued by SEBI and IFSCA, from time to time. Also, the entity must

furnish requisite information to the Clearing Corporations in GIFT-IFSC in the format as may be prescribed, latest by the 10th day of every month.

The Former Governor of RBI, Dr Duvvuri Subbarao unveiled his latest book, 'Just A Mercenary?: Notes from My Life and Career'.

The Former Governor of RBI, Dr Duvvuri Subbarao unveiled his latest book, 'Just A Mercenary?: Notes from My Life and Career'. The book is touted to be the remarkable journey of a small-town boy from a modest background to the top echelons of India's civil services and then on to the helm of the country's central bank. Subbarao served as governor of RBI for five years . Prior to that, he was finance secretary and secretary to the prime minister's Economic Advisory Council. The book was published by Penguin Random House India.

joint exercise is conducting by Army and IAF at multiple locations in Punjab : 'Gagan Strike'

Indian Army's Kharga Corps, under the aegis of Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise with the IAF at multiple locations in Punjab. The exercise was conducted to refine processes and validate employment of attack helicopters in support of mechanised operations in developed terrain, an official statement issued on Tuesday said.

REC Ltd has received the RBI's approval to set up a subsidiary in IFSC, GIFT City, Gujarat.

REC Ltd has received the RBI's approval to set up a subsidiary in IFSC, GIFT City, Gujarat. The proposed subsidiary will engage in a range of financial activities as a finance company within GIFT, including lending, investment, and other financial services. REC Ltd, under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has received a 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for setting up a subsidiary in Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar. The GIFT City platform offers a conducive environment for international lending activities coupled with world-class infrastructure.

Carlyle Group divested nearly a 2 percent stake in Yes Bank for Rs1,441 crore through an open market transaction.

Carlyle Group divested nearly a 2 percent stake in Yes Bank for Rs1,441 crore through an open market transaction. US-based Carlyle Group, through its affiliate CA Basque Investments, offloaded shares in Yes Bank through a bulk deal on the National Stock Exchange (NSE). As per the data, CA Basque Investments sold 59.40 crore shares, amounting to a 1.98 percent stake in Yes Bank. The shares were disposed of at an average price of Rs24.27 apiece, taking the transaction value to Rs1,441.64 crore. After the stake sale, the Carlyle Group's shareholding in Yes Bank has declined to 7.13 percent from 9.11 percent.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in its latest report, “Economic Outlook,” released, has raised its economic growth rate forecast for the Indian economy for 2024-25 to 6.6%.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in its latest report, “Economic Outlook,” released, has raised its economic growth rate forecast for the Indian economy for 2024-25 to 6.6%. In its earlier report, it had projected a growth rate of 6.2 percent for the Indian economy in 2024-25. It has also forecasted a growth rate of 6.6 % for 2025-26. The OECD expects the world economy to grow by 3.1 percent in 2024 and 3.2 percent in 2025. According to the OECD, the Indian economy is expected to grow faster in 2024-25 due to an increase in public investment and improved business confidence.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has cleared Sanyo Special Steel’s acquisition of a 15.43% stake in Sanyo Special Steel Manufacturing India (SSMI) from Mitsui & Company Ltd.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has cleared Sanyo Special Steel’s acquisition of a 15.43% stake in Sanyo Special Steel Manufacturing India (SSMI) from Mitsui & Company Ltd. Sanyo Special Steel, a Japan-based company, sells steel products globally and has manufacturing hubs in Europe and India. It is a part of Nippon Steel Corporation Group. SSMI was a joint venture between Mahindra & Mahindra (India), Sanyo Special Steel (Japan) and Mitsui & Co (Japan) that got incorporated in September 2012.

The Indian economy could grow faster than 7% in this financial year 2024-2025, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) projected in its monthly economic review.

The Indian economy could grow faster than 7% in this financial year 2024-2025, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) projected in its monthly economic review. The International Monetary Fund, earlier this month, raised India's 2024-25 growth forecast to 6.8% from 6.5% projected earlier. According to government data, the economy grew 7.6% in FY24. In its quarterly India's Economic Outlook report, Deloitte India also raised the FY24 GDP growth prediction to 7.6-7.8 percent from 6.9-7.2 percent in its January report. For FY26, Deloitte has predicted India's GDP to grow at 6.75 percent on the back of rate cuts.

World Immunization Week 2024 was observed from 24 to 30 April 2024.

World Immunization Week 2024 was observed from 24 to 30 April 2024. World Immunization Week is an annual event observed in the last week of April. It aims to educate the public about why vaccines are necessary for the health of millions of people around the world. The purpose of this week is to identify challenges in gaining access to vaccines and overcome those barriers for the benefit of the global

population. The theme for World Immunization Week 2024 is "Humanly Possible: Immunization for All". The World Health Assembly established World Immunization Week in 2012, and since then, it has been celebrated in more than 180 countries.

Every year, 1st May is observed as International Workers' Day (Also known as International Labour Day).

Every year, 1st May is observed as International Workers' Day (Also known as International Labour Day). International Labour Day helps us to recognise the contributions of the labours and the working class in development of the society and the country. In 1886, a large demonstration happened in America where the labours demanded eight hours of work on a daily basis. However, soon the demonstration went out of hand and in Chicago and lot of people got hurt. This incident came to be known as The Haymarket Affair. This incident marked the start of the International Labour Day. In 1889, a lot of socialist parties in Europe came together and decided to celebrate May 1 as International Labour Day. Since then, the special day has been observed every year on the same day.

International Jazz Day is annually observed on 30 April.

International Jazz Day is annually observed on 30 April. Globally, International Jazz Day originated in 2011. In the same year, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared this day an opportunity to recognize jazz music and give it a voice by uniting people from all walks of life. Since 2011, this day has gained immense importance. The occasion is especially celebrated for music lovers and musicians who gather from every corner of the world to celebrate with the enthusiasm and spirit of jazz. Jazz is a musical genre of western civilization. Jazz is very popular in countries like America and South Africa etc.

Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated annually on 30 April in India to raise awareness of the objectives of the government's Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated annually on 30 April in India to raise awareness of the objectives of the government's Ayushman Bharat Yojana. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) is also known as the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. It is a healthcare scheme launched by the Indian government to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to about 50 crore people who are economically disadvantaged. The Ayushman Bharat Yojana (PM-JAY) is a healthcare scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018. Under this scheme, free health insurance of Rs 5 lakh is provided to more than 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families every year under the PM-JAY scheme.

Satellite Technology Day is annually observed on 19 April.

Satellite Technology Day is annually observed on 19 April. U R Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru recently celebrated Satellite Technology Day (STD) 2024, marking the significant milestone of the 50th anniversary of India's first satellite launch, Aryabhata, on 19th April 1975. The Aryabhata spacecraft, named after the 5th Century CE mathematician and astronomer, was India's first satellite. It was completely designed and fabricated in India and launched from Kapustin Yar, Russia on 19th April 1975. On that day, India became only the world's 11th nation to send a satellite into orbit.

World Laughter Day 2024 was celebrated on 5 May.

World Laughter Day falls annually on the first Sunday of May. This year 2024, it was celebrated on 5 May. World Laughter Day raises awareness about the importance of laughter and its various health benefits. The very first World Laughter Day was in Mumbai, India, on January 11, 1998. World Laughter Day originated from the Laughter Yoga movement, founded by Dr. Madan Kataria, a physician from India, in 1998. The theme for World Laughter Day 2024 is "Laughter Unites Us All".

The International Day of the Midwife is annually celebrated on 5 May.

The International Day of the Midwife is annually celebrated on 5 May. It was established in 1992 by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) to celebrate and raise awareness about the midwifery profession. The theme for 2024 International Day of the Midwife (IDM), is 'Midwives: A Vital Climate Solution'. Midwives play a pivotal role during labour and delivery. They provide emotional support, pain management techniques and guidance during this intense and transformative process. While midwives are skilled in managing uncomplicated births, they are trained to recognise and respond to possible complications. Midwives provide full antenatal care, including parenting classes, clinical examinations and screening.

World Hand Hygiene Day is observed on 5 May every year.

World Hand Hygiene Day is observed on 5 May every year. Every year World Hand Hygiene Day encourages people to to increase adherence to hand hygiene. Proper hand washing with soap and water is an effective way to promote good health by preventing several potential health conditions. Each year the World Health Organisation promotes the "Save Lives: Clean Your Hands" campaign. This campaign, launched in 2009 aims to 'bring people together' in support of hand hygiene globally. The theme for the year 2024 is "Promoting knowledge and capacity building of health and care workers through innovative and impactful training and education, on infection prevention and control, including hand hygiene".

World Tuna Day is marked every year on 2 May to light about the importance of tuna conservation.

World Tuna Day is marked every year on 2 May to light about the importance of tuna conservation. Tuna fishes are an indispensable part of various cultures and cuisines. They are an important ingredient for some incredible fish recipes. Tuna fish have been eaten by people for millennia. In December 2016, the UN General Assembly announced World Tuna Day to be observed every year. The inaugural festivity of World Tuna Day occurred in May 2017. From that point forward, each year, World Tuna Day is celebrated on May 2. The decision was made to raise awareness about the essence of Tuna fish and their dwindling numbers in the waters.

World Press Freedom Day is observed annually on 3 May to highlights the fundamental principles of press freedom.

World Press Freedom Day is observed annually on 3 May to highlights the fundamental principles of press freedom. Press Freedom Day is observed annually to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by journalists and the tasks they perform to maintain the smooth flow of information. Additionally, it serves as a reminder that being a journalist is not an easy job. The theme of World Press Freedom Day 2024 is "A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis". Press Freedom Day was laid out by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993, following a proposal adopted at the UNESCO's General Conference in 1991. The Windhoek Declaration on promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press, which was adopted in Windhoek, Namibia, in 1991, was celebrated on May 3.

International Firefighters' Day is observed every year on 4 May to honouring the brave firefighters who risk their lives daily to safeguard communities and the environment.

International Firefighters' Day is observed every year on 4 May to honouring the brave firefighters who risk their lives daily to safeguard communities and the environment. International Firefighter's Day traces its origins back to a tragic event in Australia. On December 2, 1998, five firefighters lost their lives while battling a fierce blaze in Linton, Victoria. This incident deeply affected the local community and prompted a movement to recognise and appreciate the efforts of firefighters worldwide. In 1999, International Firefighters' Day was established to commemorate the bravery of those firefighters and to express gratitude to all firefighters for their selfless service.

International Leopard Day is celebrated annually on 3 May to raising awareness about leopards and their protection and conservation.

International Leopard Day is celebrated annually on 3 May to raising awareness about leopards and their protection and conservation. Leopards are elusive and nocturnal animals whose size and colour depend on the habitat. They are great climbers and hide in trees, where they hide their prey to avoid competition. Members of the cat family, leopards live in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Russia. As a

lasting legacy of the Global Leopard Conference, International Leopard Day was officially established and endorsed, granting it a permanent and significant position on the global wildlife calendar.

India ranked 159 among 180 countries in 22nd edition of the World Press Freedom Index released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF, short for Reporters sans frontières in French).

India ranked 159 among 180 countries in 22nd edition of the World Press Freedom Index released by Reporters Without Borders (RSF, short for Reporters sans frontières in French). Meanwhile, Pakistan ranked seven spots above India at 152. It had ranked 150 in 2023. Norway topped the ranking, while Denmark was on the second rank in World Press Freedom Index. Sweden ranked third on the list. The index ranks 180 countries on the ability of journalists to work and report freely and independently. Qatar is now the region's only country where the situation is not classified either as "difficult" or "very serious". Ireland has dropped out of the Index's top three countries, replaced by Sweden, while Germany is now one of the top ten countries.

India breaks record with over \$111 billion in remittances in 2022.

India received over USD 111 billion in remittances in 2022, marking a significant milestone as the first country to surpass the USD 100 billion threshold, according to the United Nations migration agency, the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In its World Migration Report 2024, launched on Tuesday, the IOM revealed that India was the top recipient of remittances in 2022, with Mexico, China, the Philippines, and France rounding out the top five.

A MoU was signed between the Ministry of Mines and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, aimed at providing knowledge support in the field of critical minerals.

A MoU was signed between the Ministry of Mines and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, aimed at providing knowledge support in the field of critical minerals. Critical minerals are crucial for India's economic development, national security, and low-carbon energy transition. The MoU was signed on the sidelines of the two-day 'Critical Minerals Summit: Enhancing Beneficiation and Processing Capabilities' event that commenced at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The event featured exhibition pavilions showcasing a diverse array of minerals sourced from both terrestrial and marine environments.

The MoU was signed between RailTel Corporation of India Limited and Quadrant Future Tek Limited to delve into the implementation of Kavach projects in India and beyond.

The MoU was signed between RailTel Corporation of India Limited and Quadrant Future Tek Limited to delve into the implementation of Kavach projects in India and beyond. In a significant move towards enhancing railway safety, the Indian Railways has forged an agreement aimed at exploring and executing train collision avoidance system projects, known as Kavach, not only within India but also internationally. KAVACH's implementation holds a place of priority within the Indian Railways' agenda, having been designated as the "National Automatic Train Protection (ATP) System" by the Ministry of Railways in July 2020.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), Girish Chandra Murmu has signed a MoU with Toyam Raya, Auditor General of Nepal to enhance cooperation between the two institutions.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), Girish Chandra Murmu has signed a MoU with Toyam Raya, Auditor General of Nepal to enhance cooperation between the two institutions. Girish Chandra Murmu, who is on an official visit to Nepal, signed the MoU in Kathmandu, Nepal, in the presence of dignitaries from both countries. The MoU aim to enhance collaboration between the two Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) and the exchange of expertise in the field of auditing. This MoU will establish a platform between the two countries for developing and strengthening professional capacity, exchanging knowledge in the field of public sector audit, and mutually assisting in conducting audits.

THDCIL-UJVNL Energy Company Limited (TUECO) has signed a MoU with Nagar Nigam Haridwar to establish a Waste to Green Energy Plant, valued at Rs140 crores.

THDCIL-UJVNL Energy Company Limited (TUECO) has signed a MoU with Nagar Nigam Haridwar to establish a Waste to Green Energy Plant, valued at Rs140 crores. This transformative initiative aims to convert 400 Tons Per Day of Municipal Solid Waste into 140 Tons of Green Charcoal. This plant's establishment will effectively address environmental challenges associated with solid waste while promoting cleaner surroundings, in line with the vision of Swachh Bharat. Nagar Nigam Haridwar has generously provided approximately 10 acres of land at Sarai for the plant's construction. The plant's operations will involve daily processing of 400 Tons of Municipal Solid Waste, with the resultant production of 140 Tons of torrefied charcoal.

NHPC Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Ocean Sun, a Norwegian company operating as a technology provider to the floating solar industry.

NHPC Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Ocean Sun, a Norwegian company operating as a technology provider to the floating solar industry. As per the MoU, NHPC and Ocean Sun will explore key areas of cooperation for demonstration of Ocean Sun's floating solar energy technology based on photovoltaic

panels. The panels would be mounted on hydro-elastic membranes, at relevant sites to be identified by NHPC. The agreement is in continuation of efforts towards sustainable development and addition of renewable energy capacity by NHPC, which is engaged not only in hydro power development but also in various renewable energy projects such as solar, wind and green hydrogen projects.

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has given sanction to Adani's Vizhinjam Port in Kerala to operate as a India's 1st transshipment port.

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has given sanction to Adani's Vizhinjam Port in Kerala to operate as a India's 1st transshipment port. A transshipment port is a crucial hub where cargo is transferred from one big vessel to several smaller ones before they reach the final port of discharge. It will now help India in its ambition to become a manufacturing hub. The proposal to designate it as a customs-notified port has also been made. Current regulations require the shipping ministry's nod to prevent competing projects from being permitted before capacity at operational ports is saturated. This approval paves the way for customs to set up an office at Vizhinjam port. It will be India's first full-fledged deep water transshipment port. A final nod from the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is expected in the coming 3 months.

The Army Dental Centre of Research & Referral (ADC R&R) celebrated 25 years of establishment on 1 May 2024.

The Army Dental Centre of Research & Referral (ADC R&R) celebrated 25 years of establishment on 1 May 2024. General Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Command Lieutenant General MK Katiyar visited the Dental Centre on the occasion and released a Special Postal Cover. Director General Dental Services Lt. Gen Vineet Sharma, and former Commandants of the Centre were also present during the ceremony. The ADC R&R is the largest dental establishment of Armed Forces providing post graduate training in five specialties of dentistry.

The Centre has approved renaming 8 Amethi railway stations in Uttar Pradesh.

The Centre has approved renaming 8 Amethi railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. NOC has been issued to rename Fursatganj Railway Station as Tapeswarnath Dham, Kasimpur Halt as Jais City, Jais City as Guru Gorakhnath Dham, Bani as Swami Paramhans, Misrauli as Maa Kalikan Dham, Nihalgarh as Maharaja Bijli Pasi, and Akbarganj as Maa Kalikan Dham. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a no-objection-certificate (NOC) to approve the change in the names of eight railway stations in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh. Amethi, which is a high-profile Lok Sabha constituency, is currently represented by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Mrs. Smriti Irani. In the 2019 Lok Sabha election, she had defeated Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. She is again contesting the 2024 Lok Sabha election from Amethi.

Mindgrove Technologies, incubated by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation and IIT Madras Incubation Cell, and supported by Peak XV Partners, has launched Secure IoT, India's first Commercial system on chip (SoC).

Mindgrove Technologies, incubated by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation and IIT Madras Incubation Cell, and supported by Peak XV Partners, has launched Secure IoT, India's first Commercial system on chip (SoC). A system-on-chip (SoC) combines many electronic parts into one chip, like a mini-computer. It goes into the printed circuit board (PCB) and is used in various devices, making them smaller and more efficient. With Secure IoT, Indian Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) can integrate an Indian SoC into their products and help reduce the cost of their feature-rich devices, without compromising on high-end features. The new, indigenous chip comes at a 30 percent lower cost than other chips in a similar segment and is the only Indian chip commercially available in this segment.

India's 1st Constitution Park, jointly developed by Indian Army and Punit Balan Group, was inaugurated in Pune.

India's 1st Constitution Park, jointly developed by Indian Army and Punit Balan Group, was inaugurated in Pune. The park was inaugurated by GOC-in-C, Southern Command, Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh. Constitution Park, which aim to enlighten citizens about their civic responsibilities. Punit Balan for his contribution to this endeavor, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in upholding the values of the Constitution. The ceremony, led by Lt. Gen. Ajai Kumar Singh, emphasized the importance of citizens honoring their duties outlined in the Constitution to drive India towards development by 2047.

India's first indigenous bomber UAV aircraft- FWD-200B developed by Flying Wedge Defence, one of the pioneers in India's defence and aerospace technology sector, was unveiled.

India's first indigenous bomber UAV aircraft- FWD-200B developed by Flying Wedge Defence, one of the pioneers in India's defence and aerospace technology sector, was unveiled. Driven by a commitment to reducing India's reliance on costly bomber unmanned aircraft imports and boosting the Make in India initiative, the company aims to position India as a global drone manufacturing and technology hub while equipping the nation with the right air defence resources and enhancing national security. With the launch of the FWD-200B, India joins the league of nations with advanced combat aircraft capabilities. While the US Predator costs a staggering Rs 250 crores, our indigenous FWD-200B, built with state-of-the-art technology and manufactured in India, slashes the cost to a mere Rs25 crores. The Flying Wedge Defence's state-of-the-art manufacturing unit where the FWD-200B was meticulously crafted, is over 12000 sq.ft built on 1.5 acre land and is located at Electronic City.

Fship Logistics has partnered with India Post to enhance last-mile delivery services for e-commerce products of Direct-to-Consumer (D2C) startups, small and medium businesses (SMBs), and MSMEs across India.

Fship Logistics has partnered with India Post to enhance last-mile delivery services for e-commerce products of Direct-to-Consumer (D2C) startups, small and medium businesses (SMBs), and MSMEs across India. The Indian logistics market is set to grow at 8.8% annually to reach \$484.43 billion by 2029, while the E-commerce market is expected to hit \$18.81 trillion by the same year, with a 15.80 percent CAGR. In response to these trends, Fship has embarked on a strategic collaboration with India Post aimed at empowering (D2C) businesses and addressing the escalating demand in the logistics sector. Fship's cutting-edge technology, combined with India Post's extensive reach, will empower eCommerce to reach every corner of India.

The Indigenous Technologies of Thermal camera, designed and developed by CDAC Thiruvananthapuram under InTranSE Program of MeitY, was transferred to M/s Aditya Infotech (CP Plus).

The Indigenous Technologies of Thermal camera, designed and developed by CDAC Thiruvananthapuram under InTranSE Program of MeitY, was transferred to M/s Aditya Infotech (CP Plus). It is a step towards Innovation, Science and Technology theme of Viksit Bharat @2047. The thermal Smart camera has an inbuilt Data Processing Unit (DPU) to run various AI based analytics. The indigenised technology is targeted for applications across multiple domains, including Smart cities, Industries, Defence and Health, etc. The field implementation, testing and validation of this camera was done for Road traffic applications.

Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has received approval of nano zinc liquid and nano copper liquid by the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO).

Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has received approval of nano zinc liquid and nano copper liquid by the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO). These nanoformulations would help to address effectively the zinc and copper deficiencies in agriculture, enhancing crop production and crop quality and ultimately reducing micronutrient malnutrition. Zinc and copper are crucial micronutrients for plant growth and development. Zinc is essential for enzyme functioning in plants, while copper is required for enzymatic activities and chlorophyll production. Deficiencies in these micronutrients can significantly impact crop yield and quality.

DoT organises Telecom Design Collaboration Sprint to drive deep-tech innovation in telecom sector.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organised the first-of-its-kind Telecom Design Collaboration Sprint to foster deep-tech innovation among startups and

academic institutions, a PIB press release stated. Through this initiative, DoT aims to drive the growth of the digital ecosystem by facilitating collaboration and innovation among a range of stakeholders. The event, which was held in Bangalore, brought together 15 leading startups, MSMEs, and academic institutions including IIT Madras, C-DOT, and IIT Delhi.

UAE-India CEPA Council inks MoU with Indian Chamber of Commerce

The UAE-India CEPA Council on Thursday said it has inked an agreement with Indian Chamber of Commerce to promote trade between the two countries.

Under the MoU, it said both organisations will collaborate on increasing awareness within the UAE and India regarding the significant potential of the bilateral economic partnership, highlighting opportunities for companies to leverage the free trade agreement. A trade pact between the two nations came into force from May 2022. "They will also engage in dialogue and information sharing, develop avenues for member awareness, explore the hosting of joint events and facilitate member interactions," it added.

China launched its lunar probe, "Chang'e-6", with the objective of collecting samples from the far side of the moon.

China launched its lunar probe, "Chang'e-6", with the objective of collecting samples from the far side of the moon. The Long March-5 Y8 carrier rocket lifted off from the Wenchang Space launch site in China's Hainan Province. This mission is the first-ever attempt to obtain samples from far-side of moon, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA). The Chinese mission also carries Pakistan's miniature satellite, ICUBE-QAMAR cubesat, developed by the Institute of Space Technology (IST) in collaboration with Shanghai University SJTU and SUPARCO. Around 7 kgs in weight, this satellite has camera to take photo of lunar's far side. The Chang'e-6 mission aims to land in the South Pole-Aitken Basin to collect dust and rock samples, offering valuable insights into the lunar region's composition and characteristics.

German company Hylmpulse successfully launched a candle wax-powered rocket "SR75" capable of carrying commercial satellites on a test suborbital flight into space for the first time.

German company Hylmpulse successfully launched a candle wax-powered rocket "SR75" capable of carrying commercial satellites on a test suborbital flight into space for the first time. The 12-metre, 2.5-tonne test rocket dubbed "SR75" lifted off shortly after 0500 GMT from a launch site in Koonibba, South Australia. It is capable of carrying small satellites weighing up to 250 kg (551 pounds) to an altitude of up to 250 km (155 miles) while being fuelled by paraffin, or candle wax, and liquid oxygen. Paraffin can be used as a cheaper and safer alternative fuel for rockets, reducing satellite transportation costs by as much as 50%, according to Hylmpulse.

Infosys Receives ISO 42001:2023 Certification for Artificial Intelligence Management System

a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting, today announced that it has been certified with ISO 42001:2023, world's first international standard on AI management systems, by TÜV India (part of TÜV Nord Group), a leading independent provider of technical quality and safety services. Infosys is among the first IT services companies globally to have earned the certification for implementing an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) framework that fosters responsible AI practices and adherence to regulatory requirements for enhanced efficiency and accountability in AI initiatives.

This AIMS framework is a part of Infosys Topaz Responsible AI Suite, a set of 10+ offerings built around the Scan, Shield, and Steer framework. The certification underscores Infosys' dedication to responsible AI practices, enhancing accountability, and mitigating risks associated with AI initiatives.

The ISO 42001:2023 certification provides a clear roadmap and systematic approach to AI management, through effective risk mitigation and streamlined processes. By adhering to this global standard, Infosys can embed strong AI management practices across its diverse pursuits, for clients, internal adoption, and product development.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) received delivery of the second of the 56 C295 aircraft, which are set to replace its ageing Avro-748 fleet.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) received delivery of the second of the 56 C295 aircraft, which are set to replace its ageing Avro-748 fleet. In September 2021, India formalised the acquisition of 56 Airbus C295 aircraft to replace the legacy Avro fleet of the IAF at a cost of Rs21,935 crore. The total 56 aircraft ordered by the Indian customer, 16 will be produced by Airbus in Seville, Spain. The remaining 40 C295s of the IAF order will be manufactured and assembled--in partnership with Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)--at a Final Assembly Line (FAL) in Gujarat's Vadodara. As part of an industrial partnership, the remaining 40 are going to be produced by Tata Advanced Systems (TASL) in the C295 Final Assembly Line in Vadodara in Western India.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted a flight test of the Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, situated off the coast of Odisha.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted a flight test of the Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, situated off the coast of Odisha. According to the Ministry of Defence, SMART represents a cutting-edge

missile-enabled lightweight torpedo delivery system aimed at bolstering the Indian Navy's anti-submarine warfare capabilities well beyond the traditional range of lightweight torpedoes. This canister-based missile system incorporates several advanced subsystems, including a two-stage solid propulsion system, electromechanical actuator system, and precision inertial navigation system. Additionally, SMART is equipped with an advanced lightweight torpedo as its payload, delivered via a parachute-based release system.

ISRO has released 'Indian Space Situational Assessment Report (ISSAR) 2023' on vulnerability of space assets to collisions.

ISRO has released 'Indian Space Situational Assessment Report (ISSAR) 2023' on vulnerability of space assets to collisions. According to the report, about 1,37,565 close approach alerts were received from USSPACECOM. Also, a total of 3,033 alerts for close approaches within the distance of one kilometre were deduced by the ISRO satellites. The report also identified 2,700 close approaches with other operational satellites within 5 kilometres. The report was compiled by ISRO System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operations Management on April 2, 2024.

The 6th barge of the LSAM 16 (Yard 130) series, built by Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd (SPPL), was launched in Maharashtra's Thane.

The launch of 'Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile Barge, LSAM 20 (Yard 130)', 6th Barge of 11 x ACTCM Barge Project, was undertaken at M/s Suryadipta Project Pvt Ltd (launch site of M/s SPPL). The launching Ceremony was presided over by Shri Madhusudan Bhui, INAS, GM NAD (Karanja). The contract for building 11 x ACTCM Barge was signed between MoD and M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane on 5 Mar 2021. The availability of these Barges would provide impetus to operational commitments of IN by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation and Disembarkation of articles/ ammunition to IN Ships both alongside jetties and at outer harbours.

Indian Chess Player Vaishali Rameshbabu has officially bestowed with title of GrandMaster(GM) by International Chess Federation(FIDE).

Indian Chess Player Vaishali Rameshbabu has officially bestowed with title of GrandMaster(GM) by International Chess Federation(FIDE). Vaishali's accomplishment, as the 84th Indian grandmaster and 42nd woman from any country to become a GM, has already been widely recognized. In January, she was presented with the Arjuna Award. Vaishali was a two-time youth champion, winning the Girls Under-12 event in 2012 and the Girls Under-14 in 2015. When she was 12 years old, with a FIDE rating of about 2000, she played in a simultaneous exhibition against GM Magnus Carlsen and won her game. Vaishali is the older sister of GM Praggnanandhaa R. She won the 2023 FIDE Women's Grand Swiss with an 8.5/11 score, thus qualifying for the 2024 Candidates months after her brother did so at the 2023 FIDE World Cup.

China winning the men's and women's titles at the 2024 BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals in Chengdu, China.

China winning the men's and women's titles at the 2024 BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals in Chengdu, China. The hosts overcame Indonesia in the finals marking the first time since 2012 that China won both the men's and women's titles at the world team championships. In the Thomas Cup, the Chinese denied Indonesia – the most successful nation in the history of the tournament – their 15th title to capture their 11th title in the process. The 2024 edition of the Thomas and Uber Cup was held in Chengdu, China, from 27 April to 5 May 2024. China defeated Indonesia 4-1 to win the Thomas Cup for the 11th time. The Chinese women's team defeated Indonesia 3-0 to win the Uber Cup for the 16th time.

India will host the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Junior Championships 2025 at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati.

India will host the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Junior Championships 2025 at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati. The 2025 edition in India will mark the return of the BWF Junior World Championships to the country for the first time since 2008 when Pune hosted the event. The dates for the 2025 edition will be announced later. The team as well as individual events will be held at the National Centre of Excellence, which was inaugurated by the Badminton Association of India (BAI) last year. It boasts 16 badminton courts, a 4,000 square feet gymnasium, a hostel for players and a dedicated 2,000 square feet physiotherapy centre.

1st United Nations (UN) Conference on 'Citizen Stack: Digital Public Infrastructure, Transformative Technology for Citizens' was held at UN headquarters in New York, United States under India's leadership.

On 25-26 April 2024, the first United Nations (UN) Conference on 'Citizen Stack: Digital Public Infrastructure, Transformative Technology for Citizens' was held at UN headquarters in New York, United States under India's leadership. Conference was organised by the Permanent Mission of India to the UN together with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Assimilating India's first principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - the world is one family, India Stack shared its DPI journey through the inaugural conference. In just seven years, India's DPI model has achieved over 80 per cent financial inclusion for its citizens, and now accounts for more than 60 per cent of all digital transactions worldwide. A highlight of the conference was India's Citizen Stack initiative, inspired by India Stack, showcasing the successful integration of technology into citizen services. This initiative signifies a crucial step toward international cooperation for the development of digital infrastructure worldwide.